

Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-05 DRC-01 RSC-01 /014 W

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R 151151Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8796

INFO USDOC WASHDC

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USDOC FOR BEWT/BOWDEN

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, UR, US

SUBJ: ISSUES FOR MEETING OF US-USSR JOINT COMMERCIAL

COMMISSION - OPERATIONS OF NEW U.S. COMMERCIAL OFFICE

REF: MOSCOW 7140

1. WITH REFERENCE TO POTENTIAL PROBLEMS FOR OPERATIONS OF NEW COMMERCIAL OFFICE OUTLINED REFTEL, CONVERSATION BETWEEN DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF OFFICE AND M.M. FROLOV OF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S EXHIBITIONS DIRECTORATE MAY 14 INDICATED THAT CHAMBER WOULD NOT, UNDER PRESENT CONDITIONS, BE ABLE PROVIDE ASSISTANCE DISCUSSED IN PARA 2(C)(2) REFTEL.

2. IN MAY 14 CONVERSATION, FROLOV REFERRED TO LETTER WHICH HE HAD PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED FROM DIRECTOR OF COMMERCIAL OFFICE PRESENTING OUR NEEDS FOR INTERPRETERS/BOOTH ATTENDANTS IN CONNECTION WITH JULY 8-12 SEMINAR/EXHIBIT IN NEW OFFICE. FROLOV ADVISED DEPUTY DIRECTOR THAT HE WOULD NOT BE ABLE REPLY TO THIS LETTER AS MATTER WAS EXTREMELY DELICATE AND HAD BEEN TAKEN OUT OF HIS HANDS. FROLOV DID NOT INDICATE AT WHICH LEVEL OF SOVIET BUREAUCRACY MATTER WOULD BE RESOLVED, BUT HIS OVERALL APPROACH CLEARLY INDICATED THAT HE EXPECTED CHAMBER'S RESPONSE TO BE NEGATIVE. HE SUGGESTED THAT COMMERCIAL OFFICE ATTEMPT ARRANGE FOR NEEDED PERSONNEL THROUGH INTOURIST OR UPDK.

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3. AS EMBASSY HAS PREVIOUSLY NOTED, WE BELIEVE THAT SUPPORT

FROM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN PROVIDING PERSONNEL FOR EVENTS
SCHEDULED IN NEW OFFICE IS MOST IMPORTANT. FROLOV'S COMMENTS
MAKE CLEAR THAT THIS SUPPORT WILL NOT BE FORTHCOMING UNLESS WE
ARE ABLE TO MAKE CLEAR TO SOVIETS AT SUFFICIENTLY HIGH LEVEL
THAT WE REGARD THEIR COOPERATION IN OPERATIONS OF NEW OFFICE
AS SIGNIFICANT TEST OF THEIR WILLINGNESS SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT
OF US-SOVIET COMMERCIAL RELATIONS.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MOSCOW07230
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740119-1074
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740546/aaaabosr.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MOSCOW 7140
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <19 FEB 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ISSUES FOR MEETING OF US-USSR JOINT COMMERCIAL COMMISSION - OPERATIONS OF NEW U.S. COMMERCIAL OFFICE
TAGS: BGEN, UR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005